

Remarks

Claims 28-54 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-27 are rejected. Claims 1-27 have been cancelled. Claims 28-54 have been newly added. No new matter has been added. No fees are due for the newly added claims. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. This Amendment is being filed in connection with a Request for Continued Examination and a Petition of Extension of Time.

Claims 1-8 and 13-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Okuyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,467,402). Claims 1-8 and 13-23 have been cancelled and accordingly Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 9-12 and 24-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,467,402). Claims 9-12 and 24-27 have been cancelled and accordingly Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Newly added independent claim 28 recites a method for defining a control zone in a field of view of a motion video camera comprising “receiving indication of a selectable control zone type.” Applicants submit that the prior art of record fails to describe or suggest a method as recited in newly added independent claim 12.

Specifically, Okuyama et al. describes a distributed image recognizing system having a plurality of image recognizing systems communicating with a centralized control apparatus, which forms tuning parameters to control the image recognizing systems (abstract). In particular, image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 are provided such that one system is assigned to one measuring point. The image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 are constructed by ITV cameras 5, 15, and 25 for inputting images and image processing sections 10, 20, and 30 for processing the images which are input from the ITV cameras and executing

various image instrumentations. The image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 have similar constructions and differ from the conventional techniques in that individual data input/output sections such as consoles, monitors, and the like for each system are eliminated and a monitor 130 and a console 140 which are provided in a centralized control apparatus 100 (column 3, lines 37-48). The centralized control apparatus 100, concentratedly executes the instrumentation controls of the image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 which are distributed and arranged. The centralized control apparatus 100 comprises: a multiplexer (MPX) 110 for switching a plurality of transmission paths connected thereto; a data processing section 120 for executing communication and arithmetic operations of the image data and the like; a monitor 130 to display the image data; and a console 140 for inputting tuning data and the like and outputting the results of the instrumentations from the image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 (column 4, lines 16-27). The data processing section 120 includes a CPU 121, which is a control processor for transmitting activation commands of the image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 and executing the formation and the like of tuning parameters on the basis of the image data which are sent from the image recognizing systems 11, 21, and 31 (column 4, lines 28-35).

For the transmitted image, the centralized control apparatus 100 executes a process to display the image onto the monitor 130 and a process to form the tuning parameters (tuning parameter formation 1) in the data processing section 120. At this time, the operator can provide tuning parameters such as the optimum measuring area, the weather such as rain, fine, or the like, the presence or absence of the occurrence of a shadow, the direction, and the like from the console 140 while observing the image displayed on the monitor 130. The data processing section 120 can form more accurate tuning parameters on the basis of those instructions. The resultant tuning parameters are transmitted to the image recognizing system 11 through the transmission line 1 (column 5, lines 17-29).

Further, an image, for example, obtained by photographing a road is transmitted from the image recognizing system to the centralized control apparatus 100 and stored into the image memory 123 of the data processing section 120. At the same time, the image is also displayed by the monitor 130. The operators observe the image displayed on the monitor 130 and indicate a measuring area necessary, for example, for traffic flow instrumentation to the system via the console 140 (column 6, lines 32-39).

Okuyama et al. fails to describe or suggest a method for defining a control zone in a field of view of a motion video camera that includes receiving an indication of a selectable control zone type as recited in newly added independent claim 28. The system of Okuyama et al. allows an operator to select a measuring area to reduce the field of view to be monitored to an area smaller than the entire field of view. Additionally, an operator can select tuning parameters, for example, for the measuring area to define an optimum measuring area. However, and in contrast to the claimed invention, the system of Okuyama et al. does not provide for receiving an indication of a selectable control zone type. The system of Okuyama et al. allows for setting a measuring area and providing tuning parameters for that area. Further, the system of Okuyama et al. may be used for different applications. However, the system of Okuyama et al. does not describe or suggest receiving an indication of a selectable control zone type. In contrast, the system of Okuyama et al. allows setting tuning parameters for a measuring area, but simply does not describe or suggest selectable control zone types. The control parameters for the measuring area may be changed and an operator can view different cameras having different fields of view. However, an operator cannot select from different control zone types and accordingly the system of Okuyama et al. cannot receive an indication of a selectable control zone type. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 28 is patentable over the prior art of record.

Newly added claims 29-39 depend from independent claim 28, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance and patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of claims 29-

39 are considered in combination with the recitations of newly added independent claim 28, Applicants submit that dependent claims 29-39 are likewise patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons set forth above.

Newly added independent claim 40 recites a system for defining control zones of different types in a field of view of a motion video camera comprising “means for defining a control zone in a selected area of the field of view of the motion video camera, said control zone being of a type selected from one of said plurality of control zone types in said database and defining a tracking behavior for the control zone”.

Applicants submit that the prior art of record fails to describe or suggest a system as recited in newly added independent claim 40. In particular, Applicants submit that the prior art fails to describe or suggest a system for defining control zones of different types in a field of view of a motion video camera such that the control zone is of a type selected from one of a plurality of control zone types in a database and defines a tracking behavior for the control zone. The system of Okuyama et al. allows for defining a measuring area in a field of view and setting tuning parameters in that measuring area. These tuning parameters define the conditions in the measuring area. However, the system of Okuyama et al. does not describe or suggest a system wherein a control zone type defines a tracking behavior for the control zone. The tuning parameters of the system of Okuyama et al. define the viewing conditions for the measuring area, that is, the conditions under which the area is being viewed, not how an object in that area is tracked. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 40 is patentable over the cited art.

Newly added claims 41 and 42 depend from independent claim 40, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance and patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of claims 41 and 42 are considered in combination with the recitations of newly added independent claim 40, Applicants submit that dependent claims 41 and 42 are likewise patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons set forth above.

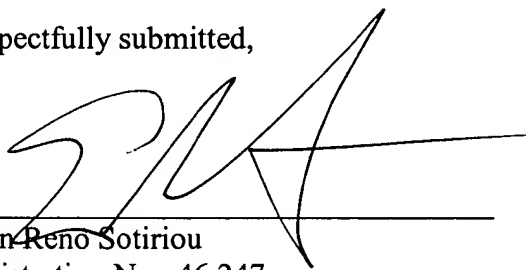
Newly added independent claim 43 recites a computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for defining a control zone in a field of view of a motion video camera performing the steps comprising "receiving indication of a selectable control zone type." As discussed in more detail above with respect to claim 28, Applicants submit that the prior art cited fails to describe or suggest such a computer readable medium. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 43 is patentable over the cited art.

Newly added claims 44-54 depend from independent claim 43, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance and patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of claims 44-54 are considered in combination with the recitations of newly added independent claim 43, Applicants submit that these dependent claims are likewise patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons set forth above.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that newly added claims 28-54 are patentable over the cited art.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention and all of the pending claims in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evan Reno Sotiriou', written over a horizontal line.

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